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Phytotoxicity of selected insecticides on greenhouse-grown herbs

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Résumé / Abstract
A phytotoxicity study was conducted from Oct. 1999 through Feb. 2000, and Mar. 2001 through Apr. 2001, to determine the potential phytotoxic effects of selected insecticides on Spanish lavender (*Lavandula stoechas* L.), oregano (*Origanum vulgare* L. 'Santa Cruz'), rosemary (*Rosmarinus officinalis* L.), St. Johnswort (*Hypericum perforatum* L. 'Topaz'), wolly thyme (*Thymus vulgaris* L. 'Wolty'), and nutmeg thyme (*Thymus vulgaris* L. 'Nutmeg'). Insecticides used for the study were: Beauveria bassiana GHA, pyrethrin [\pm piperonyl butoxide (PBO)], azadirachtin, potassium salts of fatty acids, two ratios of dimethylbenzylidine, paraffinic oil, and capsaicin. Visual assessments of phytotoxicity were made 7 days after the final application. Potassium salts of fatty acids, and both ratios of dimethylbenzylidine were consistently more phytotoxic than the other insecticides. Despite the phytotoxic effects from some of the insecticides, new growth that emerged following treatment compensated for the initial damage, and the herbs were still selectable.

Revue / Journal Title

HortScience ISSN 0018-5345 CODEN HJHSAR

Source / Source

2002, vol. 37, n°4, pp. 671-672 [2 page(s) (article)] (15 ref.)

Langue / Language

Anglais

Editeur / Publisher

American Society for Horticultural Science, Alexandria, VA, ETATS-UNIS (1966) (Revue)

Localisation / Location

INST-CNRS, Cote INST : 13300, 3540001088742.0120

N° notice refdoc (id4) : 13795267

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